GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4070
ANSWERED ON:20.08.2001
EXHIBITION AND TRAINING OF ANIMALS
VIRENDRA KUMAR

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have prohibited the exhibition and training of bears, monkeys tigers, panthers and lions;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the exhibition and training of these animals are still going on despite ban; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to prevent such exhibition and training?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) & (b) Yes, sir. The Central Government in exercise of it`s powers under Section 22 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 has banned exhibition and training of bears, monkeys, tigers, panthers and lions. The decision of the Government has also been upheld by the Supreme Court but the Court has not issued any directions about the transfer of animals held by circuses to the Government.

(c) & (d) The circuses move from place to place with the animals and possibilities of their displaying the animals in remote and far flung areas can not be ruled out. Directives have been issued to the Chief Wildlife Wardens of States to cancel the legal procurement certificates pertaining to these animals, in view of the fact that the very purpose for which animals were acquired stands prohibited as a consequence of the orders of the Central Government banning exhibition and training of these animals. However, certain circuses are keeping these animals after obtaining stay orders from different High Courts.